

New Policy Gives Prompt Notice of War Casualties

Relatives to Hear Regularly of Progress of Wounded

The War Department has adopted a new policy in notifying the next of kin (or emergency addresses) of Army casualties overseas whereby detailed information may be received in the shortest possible time. Major General Frederick E. Uhl, Commanding General, Fourth Service Command, Atlanta, Ga., announced today.

General Uhl stated, "In addition to the original notification telegram and letter of condolence sent the emergency addressee from the War Department in Washington, a letter will be airmailed directly from the Commanding Officer of the Chaplain of the organization to which the soldier was attached. This letter will be sent within a short while after the casualty occurs and will be specific in detail relative to the circumstances of death, funeral arrangements and overseas burial.

"When men are seriously wounded, the information will be forwarded direct from the hospital to the emergency addressees.

"Relatives and friends of Army personnel casualties should keep in mind that from the time of receiving the original notification from the Adjutant General until the supplemental information arrives from the overseas theater, no further word will be available at the War Department.

"Prior to this new procedure, the only information in the War Department was obtained through the initial casualty report sent by code indicating that the soldier had been listed as a casualty on a specific date. This made it impossible for the office of the Adjutant General to answer the many queries for additional details on deaths. Under the new program these details will be supplied families at the earliest possible date from the soldier's commanding officer."

Major James F. Morison, Personal Affairs officer, Headquarters Fourth Service Command, pointed out, "In addition to supplying direct information on deaths, a new procedure is being put into effect towards supplying progress reports on wounded and seriously ill. Some of the hospital personnel will write a letter to the emergency addressee immediately following the admission of a seriously wounded man to the hospital, telling briefly the nature of the wound. Fifteen days later a card will be sent telling of the progress made by the patient which in turn will be followed by a second letter in another fifteen days, provided the wounded man is still on the seriously wounded list. As long as he is in this condition this procedure will continue at 15 day intervals.

"In the case of soldiers wounded in combat but not seriously ill a postal card will be sent every fifteen days stating the condition of the soldier."

General Uhl explained "this new procedure in both instances will naturally be of great comfort to emergency addressees as well of value to the War Department. It eliminates the 'middleman'—so to speak—by having the reports made out at the hospital and mailed immediately to the person concerned, instead of being first transmitted to the Adjutant General and thence to the emergency addressee."

General Uhl emphasized that this new plan will in no way eliminate the "message of cheer" which each emergency addressee is encouraged to send at Government expense to a wounded soldier once a month, nor will it affect the present policy whereby a special report is submitted to the Adjutant General in the case of any patient who has been hospitalized either for wounds, injuries or illness and who takes a dangerous turn for the worse.

MEREDITH BROADCAST

The annual Christmas broadcast of the Meredith College Choir from Station WPTF in Raleigh will be heard on Saturday afternoon, Dec. 23, at 2 o'clock.

This is the fourth big Christmas concert of the ninety-voice college choir this season, as they have sung for two Service Clubs at Fort Bragg, as well as the annual carol service at the college last week.

SANTA WILL FIND THEM

The Moore County Welfare Department is making sure that Santa Claus does not fail to find any of the children who have been placed by this county in orphanages or training schools. Gift packages all gaily wrapped have been sent to each of them.

Platinum was originally discovered in South America.

SPECIAL

To all our neighbors and
friends, near and far, we send
best wishes for a joyous

Christmas Season

and a New Year that will
bring

Happiness and Peace

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